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CONTACT
INFORMATION:

Baker Elementary
School

Millersville, PA
17551

(717) 555-1234

School Counseling
Department

Ashley DeMauro
Jillian Downing
Tammy Mellot
Erin Neslund
Elizabeth Soles

Counselor's Corner

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Your School Counselors

WELCOME TO A GREAT NEW SCHOOL YEAR!

We are the School Counselors at Baker Elementary School and we are very excited about the upcoming year.

We would like to give a brief introduction to the role of the School Counselor for those that are new to the school.

Our Mission:

Our mission is to foster a positive school climate aimed at removing barriers to learning and academic achievement and recognizing the differences and abilities of all students. A positive school climate directly affects the academic, career, and personal/social development of all students to enable them to become responsible members of society.

The School Counselors work as a team with parents, teachers, and other school staff.

At the elementary level, a major area of focus for the School



Counselors are classroom guidance lessons regarding subjects such as developing healthy friendships, study skills, and conflict resolution. More information on these subjects can be found on Page 2 of this newsletter.

The School Counselors will also provide individual counseling on an as-needed basis, as well as small group counseling. Students may seek out the School Counselor or may be referred by parents or teachers. Parents can contact the school counselors at any time with concerns.

This month we will be going into all classrooms to introduce students to counselors and how we can help. We also have presentations geared towards parents later this month to provide more information about what we do. Check out the calendar for dates!

We have lots of great things going on and will keep you posted. Until then, feel free to contact us at any time!

Program Goals

The School Counseling Department follows the ASCA National Model (2005) recommendations and guidelines in delivering a comprehensive guidance curriculum, individual and small group counseling, responsive services, and system support. This year program goals include the following ASCA Standards:

Academic Domain

Students will acquire the attitudes, knowledge and skills that contribute to effective learning in school and across the life span.

Career Domain

Students will acquire the skills to investigate the world of work in relation to knowledge of self and

to make informed career decisions.

Personal/Social Domain

Students will acquire the knowledge, attitudes, and interpersonal skills to help them understand and respect self and others.

Guidance Lessons and Small Groups



The function of the Guidance Curriculum at the Elementary level focuses on personal/social development as well as academic development while introducing career education and planning. The majority of

the school counselor's time will be spent in classroom lessons, groups, and responsive services as children are continuing to develop the ability to understand themselves and their choices.

Some of our guidance lessons include: How to Make and Keep Friends, Conflict Resolution, Self-Esteem, and This and That on Decision Making.

The School Counseling Department will run approximately 3 small groups that will meet once a week for six weeks. Group topics may be

determined by needs assessments that will be administered throughout the year to parents and school staff. Students may be referred by parents, school staff, or students may themselves indicate an interest in participation. The counselors will conduct a brief pre-screen to ensure that each student is a good fit for the group.

We will be distributing surveys to determine the focus of our group sessions this year. If you would like to get your child involved, please do not hesitate to contact us!

Don't forget

Parent

Presentations

September

23-25th

and

Back to

School Night

on

September

18th!!

Parent Resources

The School Counseling Department believes that it is important to support parents and guardians in their role in fostering their child's development. As such, the School Counseling Department will provide several parent workshops throughout the year that focus on effective communication with your child and teaching your child about responsibility and consequences. Childcare

will be available at these sessions. These workshops will be held a couple times during the year, please stay tuned for upcoming times!

Also, don't forget to come in and visit the Parent Resource Center. Not only do we have information to help you stay involved, we also have a wealth of information on resources available in the community and other helpful information

on how to help your child be successful.

This is an important time in your child's development and we encourage you to get involved and be a part of their learning!

If you would like to volunteer for career fairs or help out at any upcoming special events, please let us know!



Calendar of Events

All month: Meet the counselors!

September 11-15

New Student Lunches

September 18

Back to School Night

September 23-25

Parent Presentations

Books of the month:

What to Do When Your Kids Worry Too Much: A Kid's Guide to Overcoming Anxiety by Dawn Heubner

Annie's Plan: Taking Charge of School and Homework by Jeanne Kraus

For More Information:

The Baker Elementary School Counselors are available to answer any question you have about your child's progress!

(717) 555-1234
bscd@millersville.edu

Or visit our website:
Bscd.wikispaces.org

